

the bullet

mary washington college

p.o. box 1115, fredericksburg, virginia

Vietnam: under fire at MWC

Veteran—You are wrong. I've been to Vietnam and I know.
Nixon representative—You can say the sky is falling but I don't have to believe it.

Veteran—The sky might fall if we keep up what we're doing. It might fall to take up the place left by the earth which we have destroyed.

Tony Rosso, co-defendant with Daniel Ellsberg in the Pentagon Papers trial; Mark Rasnick of the National Student Association; Tim Bunch of Project Airwar; and Pete Coye from the National Student Lobby; were featured speakers at the "Vietnam Seminar" held in Ball Circle Friday afternoon.



"American technology has found a way to withdraw troops but retain the US presence in Vietnam," commented Tim Bunch of Project Airwar.

Bunch criticized the de-humanizing effects the new technology has had on war, comparing these tactics with earlier ones. "The ground wars with France in 1964 to 1968 were fought by foot soldiers augmented by air power," he stated. Then, there was eyeball to eyeball contact between these people. Orders were given by commanders who relied on high body counts for promotions."

Bunch explained that today, information is gathered by sensors disguised as plants, "which cannot tell water buffalo from a farmer from a soldier." According to Bunch, this information is then relayed to a computer center in Thailand, whose read-outs dispatch aircraft to a locked in set of coordinates. "The pilots exposure to danger and combat experience," Bunch commented, "is only two seconds and then he is safe in the clouds, flying home where a cold beer and an air-conditioned billet awaits him."

Bunch also stated that Fieffer and Westings have estimated that 50 per cent of the ordnates bombed represent unprotected human flesh.

Pete Coye, of the National Student Lobby emphasized that "the only way we are going to end this war is to legislate an end." He advocated student mobilization to pressure Congress into passing the Gravel-Drinan bill which calls for an end to bombing and withdrawal of troops from Vietnam. Introduced by Senator Gravel of Alaska and Representative Drinan of Massachusetts, the bill has nine co-sponsors. Coye advised that the Church-Case bill was ineffective legislation because it only called for a halt to

US hostilities, despite the fact that the North Vietnamese have said that until US troops are withdrawn they will not release any prisoners.

He cautioned that the Gravel-Drinan bill was "the only bill which calls for a complete moratorium on bombing and the withdrawal of troops."

Mark Rasnick of the National Student Association spoke of his experiences when he visited Hanoi last year with the Peoples Peace Delegation. He emphasized that the Vietnamese people are not our enemies; that theirs is a very nationalistic movement which is over 4,000 years old. Rasnick said it was for this reason that Ho-Chi-Minh was so revered among his people. "To them, Thieu is not Vietnamese—he is an American puppet."

"We keep hearing that it doesn't matter that 2,500 Vietnamese died yesterday—and that's probably how many did die," he continued, criticizing the US government for its concern only with its own citizens. Rasnick also argued that many of the ideas Americans have about the Vietnamese people are myths. He said that 60 per cent of the Vietnamese are literate, and he had visited schools there that were academically demanding and continued to function in spite of the frequent bombings.

Tony Rosso stated, "The Vietnamese war is a secret war, what's going on now is shrouded in myth. 'The history of the war,' he continued, "is the history of a big lie."

In describing the Vietnamese, he said, "Unity is the fundamental principle among the Vietnamese people. 'They have 4,000 years of history behind them, he stated, "but they have retained their identity. That identity is the underlying strength of the Vietnamese people."

Rosso commented that one prisoner he met stated to him his belief in the struggle for a just cause. "We'll fight to the last drop of blood," the prisoner concluded, "because we are fighting for everything we have."

Rosso explained that the Vietnamese people are presently living under a totalitarian government "foisted on them by the US government." He added the belief that there is "a real reason for the US to be in Vietnam." "The US government is in Vietnam," he explained, "in order to make the world sage for IT&T."

Regarding his trial, Rosso said that "Dan Ellsberg and I are not conspirators, not spies, and not thieves. There are no secrets in the Pentagon Papers, there is only history." Is history government property?" he challenged. "If it is then there is no democracy."

Rosso stated that the only difference between the US and Nazi Germany is the fact that we are on the streets demonstrating and letting the world know that we don't agree. "If you don't stand for something," Rosso concluded, "then you will fall for anything."

Wyatt Durette, state senator from Northern Virginia, stated that all war is horrible, there is no distinction between the degree of immorality." He too however, defended Nixon's stand commenting, "I believe that Nixon has a justifiable and honorable position . . . He has not reneged on any campaign promises." Durette claimed that "the bulk of the South Vietnamese do not want to be taken over by North Vietnam and are grateful for US intervention."



A representative from Hubert Humphrey spoke in praise of Humphrey's actions in calling a halt to the bombing and in supporting and helping to implement medicare and civil rights legislation.

Sandy Gottlieb spoke on George McGovern's tax-reform program, designed to close loopholes for large companies and wealthy private individuals. He also praised McGovern's proposed re-distribution of wealthy to abolish the current welfare system.

Endorsing Shirley Chisholm, Joe Hatten commented "If you have any humanitarian feelings left in you, then there is no reason you should support war." Chisholm, he said, has voted against every military appropriations bill that has come before her.

"This is a serious candidacy," he emphasized, "Shirley Chisholm stands for the liberation of all oppressed people in this country."



photos by Kathy Duley

A woman's place

Several speakers at last week's Vietnam seminar, attempted to gain student support for various candidates by citing examples of their candidate's belief in the value of women in this society. The most extreme and obnoxious remark was made by a representative of the Nixon administration who boasted that Nixon has appointed more women to governmental positions than had Kennedy and Johnson combined. Such approaches, intended to impress women, reek so strongly of chauvinism, that they are almost overwhelming.

Much that is distasteful about this country stems directly from chauvinism and paternalism. Founded in the belief that this was indeed the promised land, Americans, for hundreds of years, have superficially and condescendingly given comfort, aid, and advice to peoples all over the world by conquering, exploiting, and plundering. This country has traditionally been the protector of the masses. And if the masses don't want to be protected or would rather be protected from the protector, then they're in big trouble.

The solution to such exploitive chauvinism, is not to make women a part of it. The physical presence of women does not negate chauvinism.

The woman's movement is not naive. No one, who feels a real part of it, believes that all women are sensitive and compassionate. There are many female counterparts to the Richard Nixon's of this country, and to promote them to public office does not counter chauvinism, but perpetuates it.

Only the naive will be impressed that Nixon has found a few sows to grace his pig government. What would be more impressive, would be the increased appointments of sensitive, feeling, concerned individuals, regardless of their sex.

Many people of both sexes, who sympathize with the woman's movement, are losing patience with the exploitation of women, be that exploitation sexual or political.

L.C.

Student criticizes literary effort

To the Editor:

We are writing this letter to express our disgust of this year's first and only publication of Aubade, the literary magazine. It had been our understanding that a college publication of this sort should be produced by students and contain work by students. However, one-fifth of the contributors are faculty members. Our initial impression was that perhaps the staff had had to scrounge for contributions, but we were informed contrary to this assumption. From an ex-member of the staff, we learned that more contributions were submitted this year than ever before. Certainly not all of these abundant samples were so bad. We would also like to point out that all but one person on the staff had at least one work published, if not more.

Is this publication supposed to be a literary magazine, and if so why is it that in the entire corpus there are seventeen art works and only thirteen examples of prose or poetry? The etchings are almost totally unrelated to the literary work. The art insert (which, by the way, declines an author) does not even fit into the "literary" pamphlet. If the printer could not scale it down to size, why did anyone bother to put it in at all... except as an afterthought. The staff should have thought more about this entire publication beforehand; it might had been better.

One-third of the published elite were represented individually as many as three times. In a publication as small as this we begin to question if there was not some "mastermind" pulling the strings and dictating his or her own prejudices with a finality that paid off. We are assuming that the staff got what they wanted. (And it is their one big effort of the year even though two issues were supposed to be published.) They have produced something, but we are not sure what to call it. Perhaps, the magazine can be seen as representing a distortion of the meaning of the word, "aubade." We see it as a song of "mourning": indeed, it really is pitiful as a whole.

We are graduating this year, and we may not get to see next year's edition. In any case, we wish them good luck.

Nancy Hevener
Ruthanna McBride
Cathi Smullen
Ronayne Wall

Catching Nixon?

To the Editor:

Although I find myself in complete concurrence with that position of the BULLET on most issues, I find it warranted to contend that you didn't even catch Nixon with his shirttail out—much less with his pants down.

John A. Barteloni
VPI Class of '74

Prisoner requests letters

To the Editor:

I—next Pres. of USA need—a million letters. John J. Desmond Jr. 19491

The attached letter was placed in our Prisoners Mail Box for forwarding to you. The letter has been neither opened nor inspected. If the writer raises a problem over which this institution or the Bureau of Prisons has jurisdiction, you may wish to write to me or to the Director, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20537.

You may write back to the inmate, and ask him questions. Your letter will be inspected for contraband, and for any content which would incite illegal conduct.

The Bureau of Prisons encourages the press to visit institutions, and learn about correctional programs and activities. If you wish to do this, please contact me.

Inmates may not receive compensation for material submitted to the media. If the person

writing your names another inmate or a staff member in his correspondence, we request that you advise us of that fact before its publication. We will provide background information and specific comments whenever possible.

If the writer encloses for forwarding correspondence addressed to another addressee, please return the enclosure to me, or to the Director.

L. E. Daggett
Warden
United States Penitentiary
McNeil Island, Washington

Students urge campus consideration

To the College Community:

Since graduation this year will be held on the lawn of Ball Circle, we would like to request that all students make a special effort not to campus cut in this area.

We realize that not everyone in the College Community has a particular interest in the condition of Ball Circle on May 20, but out of consideration for the graduating class, their families, and their friends, we ask that you think twice before trying to cut. 30 seconds out of your travel time to class, the dining hall, or you dorm.

We appreciate any help you can give us in our campaign.

Ellen Taylor
Eileen Reynolds

Young Republicans support

Nixon's Vietnam policy

To the Editor:

Once again the BULLET has printed articles against the war in Vietnam and specifically material against the President's Vietnamization policy. However, these articles do not represent our beliefs.

When President Nixon took office, there were 549,000 troops in Vietnam. There are now 69,000 troops in Vietnam and this number will be decreased by 20,000 by July of this year. We feel the President's policy of Vietnamization is apparently successful.

Communism is still the greatest threat to American liberties today. If Communists win militarily in Vietnam, the chances of Communism spreading are greatly increased. World conquest is still a major goal of the Communists.

We support the President's policy of Vietnamization, and hope that he continues his plans for the winding down of the war. We also hope for the safe return of all prisoners of war and for a prompt and acceptable settlement to come from the negotiations in Paris.

Christine Haberstroh
Kathryn Shelly
Maryellen Jablonski
Susan Behling
Nancy Logan
Allinda VanDerveer
Patsy Jacobs
Vivian Peixoto

Reader endorses Bullet efforts

To the Editor:

In the April 24, 1972 issue of the BULLET, there was a letter from Judith Blinn advising you to "leave the press releases to the daily newspapers and write more about campus activities, you would have something less dull and objectionable to the reader." I applaud her letter, not because I agree with her (I don't), but because it shows she reads the BULLET and thinks about it. She may not like it, but at least you have made her think and express her opinions, which is more than a paper full of information on the Music Department and other campus activities would evoke.

the bullet

linda cayton	editor-in-chief
liz dodge	managing
linda kay carpenter	business
anita waters	news
bethany woodward	circulation
barb lawton	photography
rita bissell	ad manager

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the College or the student body, nor are opinions expressed in signed articles and columns necessarily those of the editor or all members of the editorial board.

Signed letters to the editor are invited from all readers.

The BULLET will print all letters within the limits of space and subject to the laws of libel.

Letters should be brought to the BULLET office no later than Thursday before the Monday of publication.

The BULLET reserves the right to edit all contributions for grammatical and technical errors.

Subscriptions are \$4.00 per year. Write THE BULLET, Box 1115, College Station, Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

FORUM

In nearly every issue of the BULLET, I see at least one letter "from a disgusted student or faculty member," as Judith Blinn put it. I, for one, would like to say: "Keep up the good work."

Judith Blinn also accuses your staff of "continuing to fill the BULLET with the same old tripe." Is the printing of articles expressing a concern about the death of thousands in Vietnam considered to be tripe? What about the Afro-American column, the articles and editorials about pollution and ecology, and articles concerning civil rights of students and women? Does she consider these trivial? If the BULLET reflected only the campus events at Mary Washington (which are posted on bulletin boards and in bulletins given to students), it would be rather unrealistic and boring. Perhaps she and other readers who object to the subjects pursued by the BULLET staff should re-evaluate their interests. I have no sympathy for them.

Debbie Sloan

Dervin objects to term paper ads

To the Editor:

I am writing in reference to the sadly disappointing editorial (4-17-72) defending the BULLET's freedom to accept advertising copy from a term paper mill in Washington, D.C. The BULLET justifies itself on the grounds that the student who avails herself of this dubious service is only harming herself, and on the principle of freedom of the press.

"Rules and regulations have traditionally been used to protect an individual or a group. No one needs protection against plagiarism or cheating for plagiarism and cheating hurts no one but the offender. Whether a student chooses to learn through study or simply get by through other means, should be an individual choice."

The cheater or the plagiarist is the only loser; suffering not only from lack of knowledge, but from lack of strength and lack of trust. If a grade is so important to a student, that he or she would risk the loss of these qualities, it is very sad; but it is the business only of each individual.

More importantly however, a newspaper is not bound to preserve the Honor Council or any other institution. On the advertisement pages, a newspaper exists to provide, in return for payment, the publication of certain services."

I believe these are specious arguments in support of a sleazy operation. Wasn't the BULLET not long ago berating students as prostitutes? Talk about exploitation. Or does the BULLET think women are grinding out term papers on demand? My guess is that the sources of this ad have not been checked out.

Furthermore, the principle that plagiarism harms only the plagiarizer is untenable. What about the plagiarized? And what about the infectious atmosphere that would undermine personal integrity and spread general cynicism?

The editorial continues:

"To profess to support every individual's right to information within the bounds of representative law, carries a very serious responsibility. This is the responsibility to put aside personal and political discriminations, in order to protect important and fundamental rights; including freedom of the press."

The members of the Honor Council made a necessary point; that the use of term paper services constitutes an Honor violation under the existing code. Some students may need this clarification. Beyond this, a newspaper has no further obligation to protect an individual from itself."

Whether one finds this cogent reasoning or empty phrase-making (I find it poor grammar: is an individual a thing or a person?), should one cut through the rhetoric, one would find the very old argument that the right hand need not know what the left hand does. Morality and ethics is all right for you all, but we're free, baby. Would the BULLET people have bothered taking editorial note of this as had not the Honor Council confronted them? No, of course not. I don't deny that in a narrowly restricted sense of the word the BULLET has a "right" to print such ads. I do object to the gross oversimplification of the issue.

Maybe I can illustrate why I object to the BULLET's rationalizations by pointing out that one could equally insist that cigarette-smoking "should be an individual choice," and it "hurts no one but the offender." And although individuals "may find certain advertisements offensive," we must "put aside personal and political discriminations, in order to protect important and fundamental rights; including freedom of the press."

And yet years ago conscientious publishers were persuaded to bar cigarette ads, as well as more recently T.V. networks. (Perhaps the BULLET would like to speak out against this censorship and abridgment of freedom. Forward to the fifties: to the rear, march.) But it was not so long ago when one could find articles on the hazards of tobacco in the "New Yorker," cheek to jowl with ads from Marlboro Country. The right hand knew not what the left was doing—or so the pretense ran. If you don't like the analogy with cigarettes, play the truth-in-advertising game with alleged pain-killers, wonder-drugs, and new tranquilizers that regularly appear in medical journals: We won't tell you about possible harmful side-effects because you probably know you'd only be hurting yourselves anyway and people have a right to know about thalidomide. Farfetched? Maybe, but think about it. Think about the schizoid responses made by American business, for example, Dow Chemical, when confronted by war protesters: We have a right in a free economy to produce and sell certain chemicals. It is not up to us to dictate how your consumers use our products. Land of the free, baby. Or take Honeywell, maker of anti-personnel bombs that frequently injure civilians. But hold on: those people have been warned by our government to stay out of free-fire zones; if they choose not to, they're only hurting themselves. We have a right to protect our troops. Right? Right on. The left hand knows not what the right does. So, onward, BULLET. The Establishment awaits you with wide open arms and the cancerous kiss. You've come a long way, baby.

Yet—I don't want to end on a flippant or sarcastic note, not only because I feel that the BULLET is morally confused in this matter but because the BULLET has been attacked in the past for speaking out on unpopular issues and has taken thankless risks, and I don't want to be merely another somebody dumping on it. More than that, danger exists when so much of anyone's or any group's energy is deployed in opposition. The danger is that this angry, self-righteous energy, without true concern, humour, or saving humility, can go bad on you, and you end up becoming what you hate.

Daniel A. Dervin

P.S. I append an Editorial from the New York Times, dated 2-16-72.

TERM PAPERS FOR SALE

Commercial trading in term papers, though by no means a new phenomenon, has become more brazen and apparently more profitable. Shady merchants of such papers advertise in student newspaper and, in their public statements, try to give the impression that they are engaged in a legitimate business.

Their sole purpose is to profit from providing means for successful deception. There is a racket through which students, who are foolish enough to be the customers, are as cruelly deceived as the society which takes it for granted that a certificate or degree attesting to certain attainments stands for real achievement.

Recent attacks on the term paper peddlers by State Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz have helped to call attention to this problem. But effective legal action rather than mere expressions of disapproval is needed to stop the abuse. Colleges can help by spelling out the penalties to be invoked against students caught engaging in such fraud. Student newspapers moreover should have a high enough regard for academic integrity to reject thesis-for-sale advertisements.

"A love song"

For almost all of the people who have contributed to the Bullet this year, this represents the last issue of their involvement. Those of us who have been involved for three and four years, wish to take one last advantage to speak before passing through.

We have looked, over the past few years, at this campus and at this society with a critical eye. And this campus and parts of this society have looked back at us and stereotyped us in that role. Such classification has often angered us, but, in the long run, that particular stereotype may have been a healthy part of our education.

We have become accustomed to speaking out strongly according to what we believe. And, more importantly, we have learned the responsibility of our words. For, despite the rumors of the Bullet's privileged existence, we have always been responsible to this community for our preservation. And we continually find it impossible to speak and not to act, and to act not to explain those actions.

We have learned to stand up alone if we thought we were right, and to admit error if necessary.

Having once learned how to do that, it is, fortunately, hard to forget. It's not just that our opinions remain behind in print, threatening us as a form of self-blackmail. It is rather, that we have taken our jobs and convictions so seriously that they have become an unshakeable part of us. Our convictions may change, but the responsibility of expressing them in the most effective available means will hopefully never change.

Our comments have often been heavily criticized. To those who found it necessary to express displeasures through anonymous letters and rumors, we express our sympathy. To those who have actively and publicly kept a counter-critical eye on us, we express our appreciation.

And to those who have supported us, both as individuals and as a group, we pass on the job we have tried to do.

Several years ago, one of the most compassionate individuals on this campus left his job under rather unhappy conditions. Despite these conditions, he concluded his last address to the campus with the words, "think of this as a love song."

We can say it no better.

Linda Cayton
and
staff of the
Bullet

Vietnam: a necessary struggle

by Samuel Emory

Southeast Asia is a subcontinent, isolated from China by a series of high, rugged, jungle covered mountains. There are only five motor roads across these mountains. One, the Burma Road, lies abandoned and impassable. A second is the recently completed Chinese military highway into northern Laos. The other three roads and the only railroad feed into North Viet Nam; the easy road from the massive block of countries that form the communist heartland to Southeast Asia. Beyond Viet Nam the road widens and becomes harder to defend. To hold in Thailand would require more men, more equipment, more losses.

Southeast Asia provides most of the world's tin, tungsten, and rubber. Off shore oil is being developed, adding to the regions value as does the vital Strait

of Malacca, one of the world's busiest waterways, through which the fuels for Japan's booming industries flow and from which its products pass to the western world. In addition, the area is an underpopulated, rice exporting region adjacent to the masses of people who populated Asia.

These resources will be used either to support western Democracy or the communist block, and are of vital interest to both sides. Even if one regards the North Vietnamese as sem-independent communists, they must repay the Soviet for the literally billions of dollars in supplies poured into Indochina by the Russians. They can do this only by offering a route to the richness of their neighbors.

This is the cause of the war and the reason for US involvement. We need Southeast Asia, not as a source of private profit, but as a source of the materials essential for our industrialized economy. The Soviets want to use these resources; so do we. They support one side, we the other.

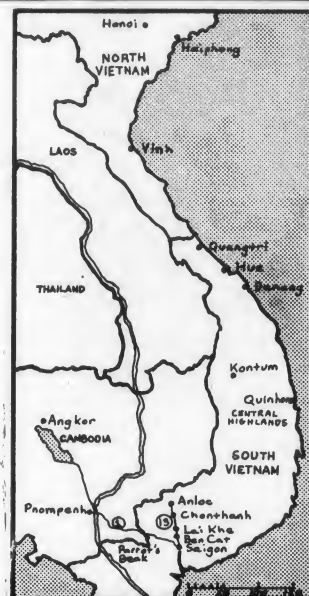
The present fighting, brought on by a classic military invasion of South Vietnam by eleven of the thirteen divisions of the North Vietnamese army, was initiated by the communists as we were withdrawing our forces. Had they waited we would have been gone, but they could not afford to wait. The southern army was progressing, so they launched a major attack backed by all the force at their disposal. It must succeed in six weeks before the major rains begin, so they will push the assault with desperate force. We have responded by bombing, including the docks in the north. The effect of this strategic bombing will be long term while the tactical bombing conducted in the south will have more immediate effect.

There is no question of who provoked this fighting; it is a simple act of blatant aggression by North Vietnam. We are acting to help block an invasion. This both defends the Vietnamese and protects our vital interests in the area. The government of South Vietnam is irrelevant. We are not acting to defend a government, but to protect Southeast Asia, its resources, people, and vital shipping lanes.

VIETNAM

Professors express opposing views

of Vietnam war



by Lewis Fickett

Vietnam:

"A grotesque

failure"

The resumption of all-out bombing of North Vietnam is but another confession of failure by the Nixon Administration. More than that it is a cruel hoax being perpetrated on the families of the POWs, whose right to come home is being sacrificed for partisan political reasons—to attempt to win a Presidential election.

Every thinking American, regardless of party, knows NOW that our whole Vietnam Policy was a grotesque failure. The preservation of a puppet military dictatorship in Saigon is not, and NEVER WAS, essential to the preservation of vital American national security interests. And yet it is apparently for this reason—and its fear of political defeat—that the Nixon Administration continues to prolong the war in Vietnam, continues to sacrifice American lives, to waste American treasure, and to abandon the POWs to the horrors of their captivity.

American forces should be withdrawn from Vietnam as soon as they can safely be loaded on adequate transport. The Vietnamese must be left to work out their own problems. American has done enough for them—50,000 lives and hundreds of billions of dollars.

Yet, the Nixon Administration still clings to the illusion of a military victory, at least it will until the November Election. It does not want to admit that its policy of Vietnamization has been a total failure. It does not want to admit that it has sacrificed the possibility of a negotiated settlement in Vietnam by continuing to support the undemocratic corrupt Thieu Government.

However good-intentioned our motives may have originally been in Vietnam, the senseless slaughter and devastation that has been wrought

on this poor small country far surpasses any worthwhile results which a continuation of the war could bring to them or us. On any evening of TV, the pictures of killed, maimed, and crippled children brings this lesson home to us.

WE MUST WITHDRAW FROM VIETNAM NOW—and not wait for another ten thousand casualties. We must negotiate to bring the POWs home. Anything else is senseless butchery, contrived merely to win an election.